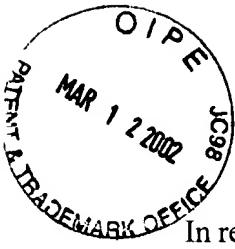


Holub
3/20/02



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Masahide MOHRI, et al.

Appln. No.: 09/891,655

Confirmation No.: 4405

Filed: June 27, 2001

Group Art Unit: 1754

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MAR 15 2002

TC 1700

Examiner: Steven J. Bos

For: METAL OXIDE POWDER AND METHOD FOR THE PRODUCTION OF THE SAME

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is responsive to the Election of Species Requirement mailed February 11, 2002.

Applicants elect the species zirconium, and identify Claims 1, 4, 5, 7 and 13-28 as readable thereon.

Examination of the Application on the merits is requested.

Applicant hereby petitions for any extension of time which may be required to maintain the pendency of this case, and any required fee, except for the Issue Fee, for such extension is to be charged to Deposit Account No. 19-4880.

Respectfully submitted,

John T. Callahan

Registration No. 32,607

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Date: March 12, 2002